

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6153

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US GE

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S FOREIGN MINISTRY CALL

1. AT HIS REQUEST I CALLED ON GDR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KROLIKOWSKI DECEMBER 11. THE MEETING TURNED INTO A FIFTY MINUTE DISCUSSION OF FUTURE RELATIONS AND THE TONE AND STYLE BOTH COUNTRIES WOULD TRY TO SET. THE CONVERSATION WAS RELAXED, STRIKINGLY FRANK AND FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT.

2. KROLIKOWSKI WELCOMED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF US-GDR RELATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS, STATING THAT IF THE US AND SOVIET UNION COULD AGREE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BETTER RELATIONS THESE WAS REASON THAT US-GDR COULD DO SO AS WELL. HE EMPHASIZED GDR PURPOSE TO CONDUCT RELATIONS IN CANDOR AND GOOD FAITH AND APPROACH ISSUES "PRAGMATICALLY," USING THE WORD AGAIN AND AGAIN. HE NOTED THAT DIFFIERENCES WOULD ARISE, BUT EXPECTED THAT VIEWPOINTS WOULD BE EXPRESSED FRANKFLY, HOPEING THAT BOTH COUNTRIES WOULD NOT BE EXCES- SIVELY "DIPLOMATIC", BUT WOULD SEEK PRAGMATIC SOLUTIONS IN THE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS THAT LIE AHEAD. HE NOTED THAT HE ADMIREDD
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THE APPROACH OF THE US SIDE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT CULMINATED IN

THE SEPTEMBER 4 AGREEMENT IN RECOGNITION. "WITH GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES, HE SAID, "THERE ARE ANSWERS TO ALL PROBLEMS."

3. I RESPONDED THANKING GDR FOR CORDIAL WELCOME AND FOR HELPFULNESS TO DCM IN ADVANCE ARRANGEMENTS. ANSWERING HIS SUBSTANTIVE REMARKS, I STATED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND SECRETARY OF STATE HAD INSTRUCTED ME TO PROCEED EXPEDITIOUSLY TO FURTHER ESTABLISH-

MENT OF GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE GDR AND THAT IT WAS THEIR PURPOSE, MY PURPOSE, AND THAT OF THE EMBASSY STAFF TO DEAL WITH CANDOR, AND TO EXPRESS CLEARLY THE POSITION OF THE US ON ALL MATTERS AFFECTING GDR-US RELATIONS AND CONCERNS. I FURTHER NOTED THAT IT WAS THE US POSITION NOT TO INTERFERE IN GDR INTERNAL AFFAIRS. KROLIKOWSKI STATED THAT HE CONSIDERED MY POLITICAL EXPERIENCE WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IN CLARIFICATION OF OUR RELATIONS.

4. KROLIKOWSKI ALLUDED TO GDR-SOVIET TIES AND TO US RELATIONS WITH ALLIES. I RESPONDED THAT AS THE GDR UNDERSTOOD AND RESPECTED US-ALLIED RELATIONSHIPS, GDR-SOVIET TIES WERE SIMILARLY UNDERSTOOD AND RESPECTED BY US.

5. INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS. KROLIKOWSKI NOTED THAT THIS WAS AN ACTIVE PERIOD IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES, AND SAID THE IMAGINED

I WOULD TAKE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS AREA. HE SAID THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE IN PART A FUNCTION OF BROADER FOUR-POWER RESPONSIBILITIES IN BERLIN. AS FAR AS GDR POLICIES TOWARD THE FRG WERE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, HE APPRECIATED HEARING MY EARLIER REMARKS THAT WE HAD NOT INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN GDR INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

6 FOR-BREZHNEV TALKS. KROLIKOWSKI EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE OUTCOME OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND CHAIRMAN BREZHNEV AT VLADIVOSTOK. HE SAID THE AGREEMENT REACHED THERE CREATES AN ATMOSPHERE BEYOND US-SOVIET RELATIONS THAT IS PROPITIOUS FOR TIES NOW BEING ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE US AND GDR. I EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF HIS STATEMENT ON FOR-BREZHNEV TALKS, ADDING THAT THE AGREEMENT TO BE DETAILED WAS AN EFFECTIVE STEP IN CONTROL AND REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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7 TRADE, WITHOUT ALLUDING TO THE GDR'S DESIRE THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BEIL VISIT THE US SOON, KROLIKOWSKI SAID THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WOULD BE AN AREA OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE GDR. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH TRADE WAS MODEST AT PRESENT, IT COULD BE EXPANDED CONSIDERABLY.

8. ACCESS TO LEADERSHIP. IN MY OPENING REMARKS I HAD SAID THAT I EXPECTED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH GDR LEADERS. IN A

BRIEF BUT CAREFULLY WORDED STATEMENT, PERHAPS THE MOST FORMAL TO THE ENTIRE CONVERSATION, KROLIKOWSKI SAID I COULD COUNTR ON HAVING "ACCESS

TO THE TOP POLICYMAKES OF THE GDR" SOON AFTER PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS. I DO NOT KNOW IF HE WAS ALLUDING TO PARTY FIRST SECRETARY HONECKER. I EXPECT TO RAISE THE QUESTION WITH STOPH IN TALK SCHEDULE WITH HIM AFTER PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS.

9. PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS. THE MINISTER REGRETTED THAT THERE HAD NOT YET BEEN AGREEMENT ON A MUTUALLY SATISFACOTYR DATE FOR THE PRESENTATIOH OF CREDENTIALS. I REPLIED THAT EVERY EFFORT WAS BEING MADE IN WASHINGTON TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE PRESIDENT FOR AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE SIEBER BEFORE DECEMBER 20 I ALSO DESCRIBED SOME OF THE GREAT DEMARNDs ON THE PRESIDENT AT THE TIME OF THE CLOSING

OF THE CONGRESS. KROLIKOWSKI EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION, ADDING THAT IF A DATE COULD NOT BE AGREED UPON BEFORE THE 20TH, THE GDR WOULD NOT BE PREPARED, DUE TO PREMER STOPH'S VACTION PLANS, TO ACCREDIT ME UNTIL SOME TIME AFTER JANUARY 6, 1975. COOPER

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